ses of the parties, firms/companies/ suppliers/individuals alongwith the amount and type of work/supply awarded for each unit/division of ITDC by its Corporate Engineering Division during the said period annually, and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the above-stated firms/individuals were awarded the particular type of work/ supply based on fake and or limited tenders, if not, the factual position in each case with reasons and justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH)· (a) to (c) The works relating to planning, designing and construction of hotels and renovation thereof are specialised and complicated in nature Accordingly, the specialists like Architects, Interior Designers and Interior Decorators etc are empanelled through open advertisement and with the approval of the Board of Directors. The works are awarded to the empanelled parties by inviting tenders from these enlisted parties Depending upon the location, magnitude and nature of works, both systems of tendering are being followed namely, open tenders through wide press publicity, and limited tenders, through approved panels

A comprehensive list giving names and addresses of parties, firms/companies/suppliers/individuals alongwith the amount and type of work/supply awarded for each unit/division of ITDC is enclosed in Annexure [*See* Appendix CLVI, Annexure No 6]

The works were awarded in the Corporation by following the procedures indicated above

Development of various tourist spots in tourism year 1991

215 SHRI S S AHLUWALIA Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state·

(a) whether it is a fact that the year 1991 would be observed as Tourism Year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof,

(c) whether Government have chosen to project the tourist and religious places in Bihar such as Bodhgaya, Jain Temples, Patna Sahib, Nalanda, Rajgir etc to attract the tourists on flow in the State,

(d) if so, whether Government have any plan to decorate, illuminate these places and distribute pamphlets on them at national and international level to attract the internal and foreign tourists, and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the special transport arrangements for tourists made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir Besides traditional tourist circuits, new extension circuits have been identified for promotion. 46 fairs and festivals are being promoted all over the country.

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) and (e) General brochures for distribution amongst the domestic and foreign tourists have been brought out including a map of the region Presently, there are no plans to decorate and illuminate these places. As regards special transport arrangements for tourist, it is the responsibility of the State Government

Steps taken to develop and boost rural tourism in the country

216 SHRI SURESH KALMADI· Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state·

(a) whether Government have taken steps to develop and boost rural tourism in India, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH)· (a) and (b) In order to develop and boost rural tourism in the country, the Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance to State Governments for organising rural craft melas and rural

fairs and festivals In addition, the Government have a scheme under which incentives are given to entrepreneurs for setting up of hotels in rural areas of the country.

Decline in the number of foreign tourists visiting Maharashtra

217 SHRI SURESH KALMADI Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tourism inflows from other countries to India and particularly in the State of Maharashtra has dampened;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by Government to boost the tourism; and

(c) the number of foreign tourists having visited Maharashtra during the year 1989 and 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The disturbances in some parts of the country and the adverse reporting of these events in the overseas markets, international developments like, Gulf crisis, restructuring of economy in Soviet Russia, etc are the main reasons for the decline in tourist traffic The steps taken by the Government for boosting tourism include diversification of tourism resources, development of new circuits, relaxation of rules relating to issue of visa and restricted area permits, etc, provision of money changing facilities in approved hotels, etc

(c) Comparable figures of tourist arrivals in Maharashtra during 1990 are not available from the State Government However, as per the disembarkation statistics available 488,681 foreign tourists disembarked at Bombay Airport till November 1990 as compared to 496,719 disembarkations during the same period in the previous year

Creation of Heritage Hotels

218 SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to create new type of Hotels - to be called 'Heritage Hotels' by converting Historical Buildings and Havelies into Hotels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH): (a) and (b) Government propose to include Heritage Hotels as a classification standard along with one to five star categories The category is being introduced to cover running hotels that have been built in traditional Residences This is being intorduced in Rajasthan at the first instance in consultation with State Government and hotel owners as a voluntary scheme

Loss due to Natural Calamities

219 SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) the States/Union territories affected by floods, heavy rains and land slides during the last three years;

(b) the estimated loss caused by the natural calamities to property, crops, human lives and number of persons rendered homeless during the above period in each State,

(c) the Central assistance sought by each State,

(d) whether Government have any proposal to face such types of natural calamities effectively; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH) (a) and (b) States/UTs wise details of damage to life and properties due to floods, heavy rains and land slides, as reported by them, during the years 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 are given at Annexure I II and III respectively

[See Apendix CLVI, Annexure No 7]